

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 MC-02 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01

/069 W

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R 030903Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5803

SECDEF

INFO CINCPAC

CSAF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 5283

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

OSD PASS USAF/DAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, MY, US

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF US-MALAYSIAN F-5 PROGRAM REVIEW

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 4788

B. CSAF 092347Z NOV 73

C. KUALA LUMPUR 4611

D. KUALA LUMPUR 4149

E. STATE 11652

1. SUMMARY: CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN USAF TEAM LED BY MAJ GEN PRICE AND MALAYSIANS RE F-5E'S SUCCESS. CONCERN OF GOM MIN DEF AND RMAF PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE FOR F-5 PURCHASE RE COST ESCALATIONS COMPLETELY ALLAYED AND STRONG FEELING OF CONFIDENCE IN US GOODWILL AND SINCERITY ESTABLISHED. END SUMMARY.

2. TEAM OF EXPERTS LED BY MAJ GEN H.L. PRICE, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AND COL B.J.DULIN, LT COLS G.C.SUE AND
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J.NORRIS, MAJ.RM.OSBORN AND MSSRS C.MOSER AND J.HANCOCK

VISITED KUALA LUMPUR NOV 25-28 TO DISCUSS GOM MIN DEF AND RMAF FEARS THAT UNNECESSARY AND UNJUSTIFIED INCREASES WERE CONTEMPLATED IN COST OF 16 F-5E'S ORDERED FOR RMAF. DURING STAY TEAM WAS BRIEFED BY AMBASSADOR AND STAFF AND MET WITH GOM SEC GEN FOR DEFENSE ABU BAKAR SAMAD BIN MOHD NOOR AND ACTING CHIEF OF AIR STAFF MOHD TAIB. IN ADDITION, DETAILED BRIEFINGS AND WORKING LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD BETWEEN TEAM AND RMAF STAFF WHICH THOROUGHLY COVERED ALL POINTS OF CONCERN PERTAINING TO F-5 PROGRAM AND, IN FACT, SHOWED THEM PROJECT CURRENTLY RUNNING BELOW INITIAL QUOTED COST.

3. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR AND DATT FEEL THAT THANKS TO EXPERTISE AND SINCERITY MANIFESTED BY MAJ GEN PRICE AND HIS TEAM POTENTIALLY DIFFICULT PROBLEM US-MALAYSIAN POLITICAL AND DEFENSE RELATIONSHIPS HAS BEEN FULLY OVERCOME. MIN DEF AND RMAF OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN VISIT HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR STRONG APPRECIATION FOR HIGH LEVEL US INTEREST AND EFFORTS ON THEIR BEHALF AND, AS A RESULT, VISIT HAS GREATLY ENHANCED RAPPORT BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE MILITARY SERVICES.

4. ACTION: PLEASE CONVEY AMBASSADOR'S PERSONAL THANKS TO MAJ GEN PRICE AND HIS TEAM FOR JOB WELL DONE.
LYDMAN

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